



**DOMINICAN  
UNIVERSITY**

# Learning Behavior Specialist 1

## Curriculum

### Required courses:

- Exceptional Children: Characteristics and the Special Education Process (or equivalent course, which Illinois educators take as part of their initial licensure)
- Psycho-Educational Diagnosis (Ages 3–21) or Planning and Assessment in Special Education
- Managing Challenging Behavior
- Curriculum and Methods for Students with Moderate to Severe Disabilities
- Academic Methods of Special Education

## Program Summary

- Courses are offered in a flexible format designed for working professionals
- Classes are held one evening per week on Dominican's River Forest campus
- Your faculty advisor will provide you with ongoing support throughout the program
- The program requires between 12 and 19 semester hours of graduate coursework to complete
- It can be completed in one calendar year
- Graduates must pass state-required tests and assessments, including the LBS I Content Test

Few careers are as satisfying as those in special education. This program allows you to earn your LBS 1 Endorsement and prepares you to enable students with particular learning, social or physical challenges to develop their gifts and realize their potential.

## Prepare for a career of meaning and achievement

This program focuses on the complex needs of children and adolescents with learning, intellectual, emotional or behavioral disabilities; autism, traumatic brain injury, and physical and other health impairments. You'll examine research-based practices and gain the knowledge you need to provide highly effective instruction to this deserving population. The LBS I Endorsement can be added to your Professional Educator License (PEL) at either the elementary or secondary level; it is valid for the grade range on your current licensure. You'll work with expert faculty who are dedicated to your success—whose support will extend far beyond the classroom.

## A program designed for the busy professional

Classes are held one evening per week on our beautiful campus in River Forest. In small classes, you'll learn alongside dedicated peers who will become a lifelong professional support network. The program requires between 15 and 19 semester hours of graduate coursework. It can be completed in three or four semesters. Candidates must hold a Professional Educator License (PEL) and pass state-required tests and assessments, including the LBS I Content Test. You may apply for the state's Learning Behavior Specialist 1 Endorsement upon satisfactory completion of the curriculum while maintaining a grade point average of 3.0/4.0 or higher.



**“The academic programs at Dominican are convenient and efficient, and the resources and support of the School of Education are amazing. You know from start to finish that each of your professors is deeply invested in your success as a teacher.”**

**Shmouni Danha**

School of Education Graduate

## School of Education: Graduate Programs of Study

- Master of Arts in Education
- Master of Science in Special Education with LBS 1 Endorsement
- Master of Arts in Teaching with Secondary Endorsement
- Alternative Licensure Programs
- Endorsements in:
  - Technology Specialist
  - Learning Behavior Specialist
  - English as a Second Language
  - Bilingual Education

## Accreditation

Dominican University's School of Education is accredited by the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education. NCATE standards are performance-based, focusing on the ability of teacher candidates to demonstrate the knowledge of the subject matter and professional skills necessary to help all students learn. Institutions must provide evidence that teacher education programs include qualified faculty and a commitment to preparing teachers to use educational technology.

## A Great Academic Reputation

Dominican is recognized as one of the best small universities in the Midwest. The prestigious "Best Colleges" review by *U.S. News & World Report* ranks Dominican at No. 10 out of nearly 160 regional Midwest universities. We're the highest-ranking small Catholic university in Illinois. And we are No. 1 in the Chicago area on the publication's "Best Value Schools" list, a category that closely examines academic quality and average net cost of attendance. Nearly all incoming students receive some form of financial aid.

## Learn More!

Please contact:

**Dominican University**  
Office of Graduate Admission

✉ [gradinfo@dom.edu](mailto:gradinfo@dom.edu)



# Our goal: your success

## The fast track to your master's degree

With all the demands of classroom and home, who has time to earn a master's degree? You do. Upon completing your endorsement coursework, you can earn your Master of Arts in Education at Dominican by adding just four to five additional courses (12 to 15 additional semester hours). To qualify for this exceptional opportunity, you'll need to hold a valid Professional Educator License (PEL), have completed at least half of your endorsement classwork at Dominican, and have earned a GPA of 3.0 or higher in your endorsement classwork (with no grade lower than C). This program ensures that your excellent work on endorsement sets you up efficiently for further academic achievement.

## Outstanding preparation for a purposeful career

The School of Education at Dominican University is committed to fostering the values of scholarship, leadership and service among teacher candidates and their students. The course of study emphasizes the acquisition of professional expertise, the expansion of personal insight, and the fostering of a deep appreciation of human diversity. We recognize that with knowledge comes responsibility. A teacher trained in the Dominican tradition is prepared—in the words of the university's founder, Father Samuel Mazzuchelli—"to go where the work is great and difficult," and to strive to create a more just and humane world.



"I can't tell you the number of times the principals who hire our teachers have told me that Dominican alums are the best prepared—in terms of the basics of teaching, knowing content, and even interacting with colleagues and parents."

**Ben Freville**

School of Education Faculty